

# Center Director's Safety Bulletin

June 4, 2001

<p><b>Calendar of Events</b></p>	<p><b><u>Why Helmets Matter</u></b></p>
<p><b><u>JUNE</u></b>  <b>Construction Safety</b>  <b>"Build on Safety"</b></p> <p><b>Performance Evaluation Profile</b>  <b>May 28 – June 8</b></p>	<p>Every year in the construction industry workers are injured or killed as a result of head injuries. If you wear a safety helmet, your chances of being seriously hurt are greatly reduced and could save your life.</p> <p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is always the last line of defense. Wherever possible, other measures should be taken first to reduce or control the risk of injury, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide brick guards and toe boards to stop objects falling from the scaffold.</li> <li>• Keep scaffolds free of loose materials.</li> <li>• Tie suspended loads securely.</li> </ul> <p>The Head Protection Standard under OSHA (CFR 1926.100) requires suitable head protection be provided and worn when a risk from impact, flying, and/or falling objects exists. If you are in control of a site (e.g., as a principal contractor), you must consider risks of head injury such as risks from falling materials or of walking into objects (low scaffolds, etc.). Unless there is no foreseeable risk of injury, you must provide your employees with safety helmets and decide when, where, and how they should be worn. Safety helmets are always required in designated "hard hat" areas.</p>
<p><b>June Safety Training</b></p> <p><b>June 7, 2001</b> CPR</p> <p><b>June 12-14, 2001</b> Life Safety Code</p> <p><b>June 20, 2001</b> Lockout/Tagout</p> <p><b>June 20, 2001</b> Confined Space</p> <p><b>June 20, 2001</b> Crane Operations &amp; Rigging Safety Refresher</p> <p><b>June 21, 2001</b> Forklift Safety Refresher</p> <p><b>June 26-28, 2001</b> Laboratory Safety and Health</p> <p><b>Contact the Learning Center at 3-2996 for a video on "Ladder Safety: Fall Prevention"</b></p>	<p>The Head Protection Standard allows you to make rules governing when and where safety helmets should be worn. These rules should be in writing and brought to the attention of everyone onsite, including visiting workpeople such as architects, delivery drivers, and utility workers.</p> <p>Employees must wear their safety helmets properly and follow the instructions of their employer or the person in control of the site. Employees should take care of their helmets and not misuse them. Any defects or problems should be reported promptly. If safety helmets are not provided onsite, the self-employed must supply their own and wear them when there is a risk of head injury, or when told to do so by the person in control. Safety helmets need to be maintained and replaced as necessary.</p> <p>Whenever possible, the safety helmet should not hinder the work being done. For example, an industrial safety helmet with little or no peak is useful for a surveyor taking measurements or to enable unrestricted upward vision for a scaffold erector. Chinstraps should be provided and used if a job involves work in windy conditions (especially at height), repeated bending, or constantly looking upwards.</p> <p>Helmets should be compatible with other PPE, such as ear defenders or eye protectors. The design should allow for comfort, but remain effective. Check the manufacturer's instructions regarding compatibility of safety helmets with other types of PPE. Do not attempt to modify the fittings on existing helmets, as this may weaken them.</p> <p>In conclusion, every year in the construction industry workers are killed and many others injured as a result to head injuries. The truly sad part is that many of the injuries could have been greatly reduced or prevented if the necessary and proper actions had been taken to make construction sites safer for employees.</p> <p><b>REMEMBER: Mission Success Starts with Safety</b></p>